



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

## Department for the Aging

Julie Christopher, Commissioner

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**Note:** The web addresses (links) in this document may change over time. The Department for the Aging does not attempt to refresh the links once the week has passed. However, this document is maintained on the web for a period of time as a reference. Some links may require registration.

*COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA*  
*Department for the Aging*  
Julie Christopher, Commissioner

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Executive Directors  
Area Agencies on Aging

**FROM:** Julie Christopher

**DATE:** September 19, 2006

**SUBJECT:** Community Conversations on Aging

All Community Conversations on Aging that were to be held in October are cancelled and will resume sometime in March. We regret any inconvenience this may have caused. Please pass this information on to appropriate staff as quickly as possible.

*COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA*  
*Department for the Aging*  
Julie Christopher, Commissioner

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Executive Directors  
Area Agencies on Aging

**FROM:** Julie Christopher

**DATE:** September 19, 2006

**SUBJECT:** AARP Mobility Forum

AARP Virginia will be hosting a Mobility Forum on October 30-31, 2006 at the Sheraton Richmond West Hotel in Richmond. Those in attendance will include elected officials and public policy makers, transportation planners, transportation providers and others interested in livable communities and mobility options.

Please visit the AARP website at <http://www.aarp.org/states/va/> to learn more about this exciting opportunity.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please let me know.

**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA**  
*Department for the Aging*  
Julie Christopher, Commissioner

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Executive Directors  
Area Agencies on Aging

**AND:** Disease Prevention-Health Promotion Coordinators

**FROM:** Elaine S. Smith, MS, RD  
Program Coordinator

**DATE:** September 19, 2006

**SUBJECT:** Take A Loved One for a Checkup Day – September 19, 2006

This information is shared from the AoA Regional Office regarding the kick off of this year's "Take A Loved One for a Checkup Day". Checkup Day is a health promotion and disease prevention campaign intended to remind us of the value and importance of taking charge of our health, and to ask friends, family, neighbors, and loved ones to pledge to get a medical check-up. Two particular focuses of this year's campaign are the Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage for people with limited income and resources and the "My Health, My Medicare" Health Promotion Events.

Checkup Day is one of the key elements of Closing the Health Gap, a national campaign designed to help improve the health of racial and ethnic minority populations, who are affected by serious diseases and health conditions at far greater rates than other Americans. More information is available at <http://www.omhrc.gov/healthgap/>

Individuals are encouraged to take someone they care about to get a check-up, to make an appointment for a medical check-up, or to participate in a health event in the community. Please remind new Medicare beneficiaries about the "Welcome to Medicare Exam" which is a new benefit for Medicare beneficiaries during the first six months of their Medicare entitlement. In addition, there are other new preventive health benefits that Medicare beneficiaries should talk to their doctor about receiving. These services can be found by going to [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) or by calling the Medicare Hotline at 1-800-medicare.

**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA**  
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Julie Christopher, Commissioner

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Executive Directors & Information & Referral Assistance Specialists  
Area Agencies on Aging

**FROM:** Faye D. Cates, MSSW, Human Services Program Coordinator

**DATE:** September 19, 2006

**SUBJECT: CARFIT EVENT SCHEDULED FOR ROCKINGHAM MEMORIAL  
HOSPITAL AND MARY WASHINGTON HOSPITAL**

Another component of GrandDriver is **CarFit**, a program designed to give a quick but comprehensive check on how well the driver and his/her vehicle work together. A trained professional (occupational therapist or physical therapist) will ask a series of simple questions and complete a 12-point CarFit checklist for drivers to assess how well they fit their vehicle. In some cases adaptive equipment, such as a swivel seat, handy bar (grab bar like device) or easy reach seat belt might be recommended to improve the driving experience. The entire process takes only 15 minutes.

The next CarFit events are scheduled as follows:

**Saturday, September 23, 2006, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 a.m.**  
**Rockingham Memorial Hospital Wellness Center, 501 Stone Spring Road,**  
**Harrisonburg VA**

**Saturday, October 21, 2006, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 a.m.**  
**Mary Washington Hospital Volunteer Parking Lot, Fredericksburg, VA**  
**Follow the GrandDriver CarFit signs. Driving Expo is in the Mary Washington**  
**Hospital Atrium.**

We ask you to share this information with seniors in the Harrisonburg and Fredericksburg area and encourage them to attend these events designed to help them operate their vehicles better.

**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA**  
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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Executive Directors  
Area Agencies on Aging

**From:** Ellen Nau, Human Services Program Coordinator

**DATE:** September 19, 2006

**SUBJECT: National Family Caregiver Support Program**

**Kinship Care Initiative Statewide Task Force**

The Task Force met at 10:00 A.M. on Tuesday, September 12, 2006 at the Virginia Department for the Aging. Video Conferencing was available for participants at Mountain Empire Older Citizens, Inc. and Radford University. Major issues discussed at the meeting included:

Formation of Advocacy Groups for Kinship Care Issues at General Assembly: Sarah Smalls, Grandmother from Fairfax County will Chair this Committee.

Legislative Committee Chair Kathy Dial, Catholic Charities of Southeastern Virginia will chair the Task Force's Legislative Committee and work closely with Sarah Smalls to rally advocates for legislation. S.B. 32 from last year is expected to be introduced again in the 2007 legislative session. This bill concerns TANF benefit time limitations. Often TANF benefits for a child are exhausted by a parent before the child comes into the care of a grandparent or other relative. Financial benefits are then lost to the kinship care parent. Further information on this legislation can be obtained from Kathy Dial at [kdial@ccseva.org](mailto:kdial@ccseva.org).

Lyndell Lewis of the Virginia Department of Social Services discussed the successful grant application to obtain a Title IV E child welfare waiver demonstration project conducted under Section 1130 of the Social Security Act. The grant was awarded to DSS by the United States Department of Health and Human Services. Virginia's program is for Subsidized Custody. Legislation was passed by the General Assembly in

2004 to amend the Code of Virginia to authorize a subsidized custody program but this was not enacted because the waiver was not granted to Virginia within the time requirements in the enactment clause of the 2004 legislation. It is important to reinstate this language in the Code of Virginia to fully implement this demonstration project. This language will allow Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court Judges to approve this permanency option for Title IV-E eligible children in foster care.

The Task Force is compiling a list of kinship care support groups throughout the Commonwealth. If you have not submitted a listing of your support groups, please email the listing to [Ellen.Nau@vda.virginia.gov](mailto:Ellen.Nau@vda.virginia.gov). Reports were presented by members of the Task Force. Minutes of the meeting are available from Ellen Nau, Task Force Facilitator.

**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA**  
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Julie Christopher, Commissioner

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Executive Directors and Information & Referral/Assistance Staff  
Area Agencies on Aging

**FROM:** Faye D. Cates, MSSW, Human Services Program Coordinator

**DATE:** September 19, 2006

**SUBJECT: GRANDDRIVER TELECONFERENCE TRAINING ON  
SEPTEMBER 26, 2006**

I look forward to your staff joining me and the staff of Campbell Johnson Marketing & PR on **September 26, 2006, 10:00 a.m. – 12: 00 p.m.**, for the GrandDriver teleconference training. Although 13 Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) have designated staff to respond to inquiries and speaking engagements on the project, I have reserved toll-free lines for all 25 AAAs to participate. I invite those AAAs that have not designated staff to have at least one person from their Information and Referral/Assistance (I&R/A) Program join us for the teleconference to gain an overview of the project and its various components in case they receive inquiries from consumers. We want your I&R/A staff in the communication loop because the project is being promoted statewide, so there's potential for all AAAs to receive inquiries. I will forward a copy of this memo to designated AAA project staff. The teleconference access information is as follows:

**Local Lines (2) will call (804) 497-3932 (VDA and PSA 15)**

**Toll-Free (24) will call 1-800-337-3137**

**Pass Code (all) 2931**

For the teleconference your staff will need a speaker phone and access to the GrandDriver web site, **[www.granddriver.net](http://www.granddriver.net)** where they can view and download the training materials. Prior to the teleconference I will e-mail each AAA an access code to get to the training link. This access code will be your agency code for the duration of the project. Instead of distributing binders of training materials, we decided to use available technology so information can be readily accessible and easily updated.



GrandDriver Teleconference Training on September 26, 2006  
September 19, 2006  
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Again we encourage you to draw upon your Board members and AARP contacts to help promote the project in your service area by participating in the teleconference training. And we request that you make the project a component of your Public Information/Education service when you are speaking to local groups. This is a public service and we want all seniors aware of the benefits they might gain from the many free services available to them. This is especially important to those senior who continue to drive and may have age related difficulties that impact their driving skills. Thank you for your continued support of this valuable service to older Virginians.

**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA**  
*Department for the Aging*  
Julie Christopher, Commissioner

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Executive Directors & All Program Staff  
Area Agencies on Aging

**FROM:** Faye D. Cates, MSSW, Human Services Program Coordinator

**DATE:** September 19, 2006

**SUBJECT: TOP 10 RED FLAGS OF ELDER FINANCIAL ABUSE**

Elder financial abuse plagues over two million Americans each year and is the number one crime committed against persons age 65 and older, according to the National Center on Elder Abuse. As the Baby Boomer generation ages, this phenomenon will grow into epidemic proportions if it continues to run unreported.

Dr. Linda Eagle, President of The Edcomm Group, advises banks on the critical role they play in helping to stem elder financial abuse. According to Eagle, "Just as doctors are often the first to spot the signs of physical abuse, front line bank personnel have the best perspective from which to spot elder financial abuse." In recognition of this fact, many states have passed legislation requiring bank employees to report all suspected cases of elder financial abuse.

According to Dr. Eagle, the following are the top ten signs banks should be aware of to detect possible elder financial abuse. However, seniors and caregivers should also be on the look-out for the following signs:

1. Sudden changes in an elder's bank account or banking practices.
2. Uncharacteristic and unexplained withdrawals of large sums of money by an elder or someone with Power of Attorney for an elder.
3. Large credit card transactions or checks written to unusual recipients such as salesmen, telemarketers or "Cash."
4. Abrupt changes in a will or other financial document; transfer of an elder's assets to a family member or acquaintance without a reasonable explanation.
5. Complaints of stolen or misplaced credit cards, valuables, checkbooks or checks from social security, pensions and annuities.

## Top 10 Red Flags of Elder Financial Abuse

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6. Elders who appear nervous when accompanied by another individual or give far-fetched explanations of why they need money.
7. Sudden increases in incurred debt or inexplicable credit card transactions.
8. A person accompanying an elder who bullies him or her into making a withdrawal or does not allow the elder to speak for him or herself.
9. New signatories added to an elder's account or newly formed joint accounts between an elder and another individual.
10. Possible forged signatures on financial transactions, documents for transfer of assets or new applications for items such as credit cards.

"It's in the best interest of banks across the country to take an active role in training their employees now because more and more states will likely pass legislation in the near future." Eagle added, "Banks that take a proactive role now to train their employees to spot and report elder financial abuse, send a positive message to seniors in the community that 'our bank is safe and is looking out for your best interests.'"

Dr. Eagle, who was recently featured in Associated Press, MSNBC and the Washington Post as an expert on financial elder abuse, has also appeared on CNBC Morning Call, CNN Money and National Public Radio. Dr. Eagle has extensive expertise in bank industry training, elder financial abuse, and information security and banking compliance issues. The Edcomm Group ([www.edcomm.com](http://www.edcomm.com) and [www.bankersacademy.com](http://www.bankersacademy.com)) has provided educational programs to over 250 banks, covering all aspects of banking, including compliance and teller training.

Source: May 8, 2006, Virginia TRIAD Newsletter

**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA**  
*Department for the Aging*  
Julie Christopher, Commissioner

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Executive Directors & Information & Referral Assistance Specialists  
Area Agencies on Aging

**FROM:** Faye D. Cates, MSSW, Human Services Program Coordinator

**DATE:** September 19, 2006

**SUBJECT: ATTORNEY GENERAL BOB MCDONNELL ISSUES COMPUTER  
SCAM ALERT**

Attorney General Bob McDonnell warns consumers of a new phishing scam being perpetrated on users of the American Express website. Users are exposed to the scam in the form of a pop-up screen when they visit the site. This screen asks for personal identifying information including the user's social security number, mother's maiden name and date of birth. American Express has not authorized this request and users should not respond to it. Phishing schemes such as these are designed to collect a user's personal information to commit crimes such as identity theft

"I commend American Express for alerting consumers about this malicious phishing scheme," McDonnell said. "The serious problems of Spam and Identity Theft unfortunately converge in new scams like this Phishing scheme. This is why Virginia has a Phishing statute and my Computer Crime Unit will investigate and prosecute such fraud when perpetrated in the Commonwealth."

Attorney General McDonnell has worked with the General Assembly to strengthen Virginia's identity theft laws. Anyone who believes they have been victims of this or any other phishing scam may report the crime to the Virginia Attorney General's Office at 804-786-2071. Information on identity theft is also available at the Attorney General's website at [www.vaag.com](http://www.vaag.com).

**Background: The Virginia Anti-Phishing Statute**

§ 18.2-152.5:1. Using a computer to gather identifying information; penalties.

A. It is unlawful for any person, other than a law-enforcement officer, as defined in § 9.1-101, and acting in the performance of his official duties, to use a computer to obtain, access, or record, through the use of material artifice, trickery or deception, any identifying information, as

defined in clauses (iii) through (xiii) of subsection C of § 18.2-186.3. Any person who violates this section is guilty of a Class 6 felony.

B. Any person who violates this section and sells or distributes such information to another is guilty of a Class 5 felony.

C. Any person who violates this section and uses such information in the commission of another crime is guilty of a Class 5 felony.

(2005, cc. 747, 760, 761, 827, 837.)

Source: May 8, 2006, Virginia TRIAD Newsletter

*COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA*  
*Department for the Aging*  
Julie Christopher, Commissioner

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Executive Directors, Area Agencies on Aging  
Legal Service Developers  
VICAP Coordinators

**FROM:** Janet Schaefer, Director Long-Term Care and Center for Elder Rights

**DATE:** September 19, 2006

**SUBJECT:** **EXCITING NEWS for VICAP & Legal Service Developers!**  
**Annual Statewide Legal Aid Conference: November 15 – 17, 2006**  
**Registration Materials and Instructions Attached**  
**REGISTRATION DEADLINE – October 2, 2006**  
**Hotel Accommodations – 40 Participants/First Come, First Served**

Plans have been approved again this year to include one VICAP and one Legal Services Developer (LSD) from each of the AAAs to attend the 2006 Annual Statewide Legal Aid Conference (Reference August 29, 2006 Tuesday Email).

Similar to last year's training package, VDA will pay for training costs (hotel accommodations and meal package) for each registered participant, subject to a maximum of two participants from each AAA (i.e. one VICAP and one LSD participant from each AAA). **Hotel Accommodations may be limited this year to the first 40 registrants.** The first 30 registrants will have hotel rooms at the conference site and remaining registrants will be placed at the Holiday Inn, a short distance away from the conference site.

This year's conference will be at the Renaissance Portsmouth Hotel in Portsmouth, Virginia from November 15<sup>th</sup> through and including November 17<sup>th</sup> 2006. Attached are registration forms. While you are free to choose individual workshops, please note there is a mandatory workshop for all VICAP participants (Thursday November 16<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.), and for all Legal Service participants (Friday November 17<sup>th</sup> from 10:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.).

**Instructions: Return Registration Forms to Janet Brown at VDA By October 2, 2006 Noon**  
Thank you.

1610 Forest Avenue, Suite 100, Richmond, Virginia 23229  
Toll-Free: 1-800-552-3402 (Voice/TTY) • Phone: 804-662-9333 • Fax: 804-662-9354  
E-mail: [aging@vda.virginia.gov](mailto:aging@vda.virginia.gov) • Web Site: [www.vda.virginia.gov](http://www.vda.virginia.gov)

# Virginia Department for The Aging Participants

## 2006 ANNUAL STATEWIDE LEGAL AID CONFERENCE (ASC) The Renaissance Portsmouth Hotel, Portsmouth, Virginia November 15 - 17, 2006

### Workshops

Please return with registration form. Please check one workshop per time slot.

(\* Workshops offering CLE credit)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Firm/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Wednesday, November 15

#### ***Time: 1:30 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.***

- ☐ QDROs and Other Pension Issues Involved in Divorces\*
- ☐ Hospital Financial Assistance Policies & Billing Practices / SLH & Hill-Burton\*
- ☐ Protections for Domestic Violence Victims in State & Federal Housing Law\*
- ☐ Administrators Roundtable
- ☐ Grassroots Organizing

#### ***Time: 3:30 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.***

- ☐ Fleeing Felon & It's Effect on Social Security & SSI\*
- ☐ Basic Unemployment Insurance\*
- ☐ Addressing Disability Discrimination in Housing\*
- ☐ Medicare Appeals\*
- ☐ Support Staff Roundtable

### Thursday, November 16

#### ***Time: 8:30 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.***

- ☐ Arbitration\*
- ☐ Educational Advocacy: Special Education and School Discipline (Including Zero Tolerance)\*
- ☐ New Changes in Cardiovascular Listing of Impairments \*
- ☐ Kemps Upgrade & Query Report Writing

#### ***Time: 1:30 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.***

- ☐ A Survey of VA Consumer Protection Statutes\*
- ☐ New Law Changes and Updates in Medicaid\*
- ☐ Emergency Preparedness/Disaster Management\*
- ☐ Representing Parents in Abuse/Neglect/Removal/ Foster Care Cases\*
- ☐ ICAN EIC

#### ***Time: 10:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.***

- ☐ The New Bankruptcy Law: 13 Months Later\*
- ☐ Musculoskeletal Impairment Listing\*
- ☐ Handling a Bench Trial: Soup to Nuts\*
- ☐ The Tools of Performance Management in Nonprofit Fundraising
- ☐ Legislative Advocacy: Changing the System

### Friday, November 17

- ☐ 50 Computer Tips/Remote Access

#### ***Time: 8:30 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.***

- ☐ Keeping/Getting People Out of Nursing Homes: Waivers, Fair Housing & Other Alternatives \*
- ☐ EPSDT: Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment \*
- ☐ Foreclosure Prevention & Foreclosure Rescue Scams\*

***Time: 10:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.***

\_\_\_ ETHICS\*

\_\_\_ Dealing with Difficult People in Person & On the Telephone

\_\_\_ FAP (Family Advocacy Program)

**Important Note:**

While you are free to choose individual workshops, please note there are mandatory workshops for:

\_\_\_ All VICAP participants (Thursday November 16<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.).

\_\_\_ All Legal Service participants (Friday November 17<sup>th</sup> from 10:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.).



# Virginia Department for The Aging Participants

**2006 ANNUAL STATEWIDE LEGAL AID CONFERENCE (ASC)  
RENAISSANCE PORTSMOUTH HOTEL – PORTSMOUTH, VA  
425 Water Street • Portsmouth, VA 23704 • (888) 839-1775  
NOVEMBER 15 – 17, 2006**

## REGISTRATION

\_\_\_\_ VICAP Participant  
\_\_\_\_ Legal Services Participant

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Agency \_\_\_\_\_ PSA# \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Deadline • 12 Noon October 2, 2006

**Fax to Virginia Department for The Aging, Janet Brown, (804) 662-9354**

**\*\*\*There will be NO On-Site Registration\*\*\***

## Hotel Reservations

**Hotel :** VDA will provide for the hotel costs but you are responsible for \$10/day for parking. \_\_\_\_ Wed Night \_\_\_\_ Thursday Night

**Meals :** VDA will provide for the Meals. Please check the space below that corresponds with your meals requirements.

\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian (all meals) \_\_\_\_ Regular plated (all meals)

*(Please make sure that the meal plan you have checked is correct, as the hotel will be unable to accommodate any changes during the conference. If no preference is indicated, participants will be given the regular plated menu items.)*

**Questions?** Contact Janet Brown at [janet.brown@vda.virginia.gov](mailto:janet.brown@vda.virginia.gov)